

## SITUATION EXPLAINED BY BOARD

Statement Issued Showing Necessity  
for the Special Election Which  
Will Be Held Next Mon-  
day, May 31

## CHANGE IS MADE BY RECENT LAW

Increased Levy, if Needed, Must  
Be Authorized Before Excise  
Board Meets—Danger of  
Cutting School Term

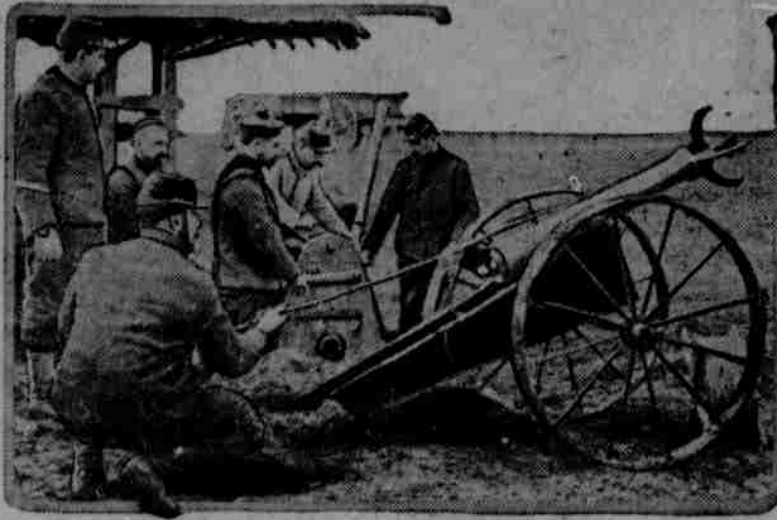
The Chickasha board of education makes the following statement as to why it ordered the special election to be held next Monday, May 31, to vote on the question of authorizing the county excise board to increase, if necessary, the tax levy for maintaining the schools next year, above 5 mills, by not to exceed one mill.

The excise board does not meet until the last Saturday in July and the total assessed valuation of the district for next year cannot be ascertained before that time. Heretofore, if the assessed valuation of a district was not sufficient to raise the amount necessary to run the schools for the next year by a 5 mill levy the excise board would order a special election held in August to see if the voters would approve increasing the levy above 5 mills, the legal limit, of the excise board without such approval. The last legislature, in order to have the question settled as early as possible before the commencement of the next term of school, changed the method of holding this election in cities so as to require boards of education that anticipate a possible shortage of revenue to hold an election in May to confer power upon the excise board to provide for such shortage up to the amount specified in the election call, should it actually occur. Manifestly, the board of education at this time cannot tell exactly how much of a levy will be required for next year. That cannot be known until the assessed valuation of the district is determined in the latter part of July. The board believes that the possibility of its becoming necessary to reduce the length of the school term by reason of a decrease in the assessed valuation of the district is a matter of such vital importance to all the citizens that they should be given an opportunity to provide against it before it is too late. Therefore the board has put the question up to the voters by ordering an election held next Monday. Let it be understood that the board does not at this time say that any increase above 5 mills will be necessary. It is only taking precautions against such a contingency.

Although it has never yet been necessary to increase the levy above 5 mills, and only twice since statehood has it been necessary to levy even 5 mills, yet it is a fact that the assessed valuation of the district has been steadily decreasing while the cost of maintaining the schools has been steadily increasing. The valuation for the current year is more than six hundred thousand dollars less than last year, while the school population and actual attendance in school is the greatest in the history of the city. Six years ago the graduating class of the high school numbered eleven, while this year it is thirty-nine. The majority of cities in the state have for years been voting an increased tax. The following figures from ten cities taken at random shows the levy for the year just closing, the first column being the number of mills levied for maintenance, the second the number of mills levied for sinking fund and interest, the third the total levy, and the fourth the total amount appropriated for maintenance.

Chickasha—	5	2	7	\$41,485
Lawrence—	8	4 1/2	12 1/2	\$68,000
El Reno—	5	2 7/10	7 7/10	\$2,000
Hugo—	10	3 1/10	13 1/10	\$6,000
Ardmore—	5	1 1/6	6 1/6	\$6,000
McAlester—				

## GUN TO CUT WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS



This novel instrument is used by the French to cut barbed wire entanglements in front of the German trenches. The gun throws the hook into the midst of the wires and a cable that is attached to it is then reeled in, bringing with it the wire.

9	1 8-100	10 8-100	60,500	
Sapulpa—	7 1-100	1 47-100	8 48-100	44,488
Bartlesville—	8	2½	10½	55,000
Enid—	9 2-10	3 2-10	12 4-10	78,107

Within the last few days many cities in the state have voted to increase their levy for next year. Marlow by 4 1/2 mills, Blackwell by 3 1/2 mills, Woodward by 2 1/2 mills and many other places in similar amounts. The board urges all voters to give this matter their serious consideration and whatever judgment they render at the polls next Monday it will cheerfully acquiesce in.

## Prominent Young People Spring a Surprise Wedding

Simplicity in the extreme marked the marriage last evening of Miss Mary Lee Emerson and Mr. Garvin Chastain at the home of the bride, 318 South Thirteenth street. Only the immediate relatives and Miss Lula Frasier were present when the ceremony was solemnized at 9 o'clock by Rev. J. A. Old. Miss Rosa Chastain played the wedding march and the two-ring ceremony was used. The bride was attired in white.

After the ceremony light refreshments were served. The newlyweds spent the night at Hillcrest, the home of the groom's parents, and left today for Amber, where they will reside.

Although it had been known for some time that Cupid had taken a firm hold upon the hearts of these young people, their marriage at this time came as a complete surprise to their friends and even members of their own families were unaware of their plans till yesterday morning. Present at the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Chastain, parents of the groom and family, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. J. R. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Harris of Amber, and Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Emerson, parents of the bride, and son, Brownwood.

Miss Emerson grew to womanhood in Chickasha. After being graduated from Kild-Key college, Sherman, she taught a year in the college here, and then entered the university at Ann Arbor, Mich., where she obtained a degree a year ago. She has been an instructor in the O. C. W. English department during the past year. The groom also spent several years as a student in Michigan university. A year or so ago he decided to take up farming and moved to his present location, near Amber, where he has a large tract of land which he hopes to convert into one of the best farms in the county. Both of the young people are universally admired in Chickasha and they enter upon their wedded life with no end of good wishes from friends.

## IN DISTRICT COURT.

In district court this morning, the case of the Citizens' National bank of Lawton vs. E. G. Wolverton et al was taken up. The jury was waived and the case is being tried before the court with Judge Cham Jones presiding. The action is a foreclosure of mortgage case.

## BECKER TO DIE IN JULY.

By United Press.  
Albany, N. Y., May 26.—The court of appeals set the execution of Chas. Becker for the week beginning July 12th.

## PROSPECT IS BETTER

That the wheat yield in Grady county will be at least an average, if not a better crop, is the belief of wheat growers and close observers, their opinion being based upon the great improvement shown in the condition of the crop within the past week. The farmers also state that the damage is not so severe as was at first anticipated after the red rust was discovered in so many of the fields.

Ten days ago, many of the fields looked decidedly yellow and sickly, but at this time the condition has improved a great deal, some placing the improvement as high as 50 per cent over the conditions two weeks ago. "I am much encouraged over the present prospects," said one man who is much interested in the wheat crop. "Two weeks ago I went into the fields and must confess that I came back feeling pretty blue. There was a yellowish tinge to most of the fields and the plant looked pretty sick. On last Sunday I again visited the same, and other fields, and am feeling pretty good now. I would place the very conservative estimate of improvement on the fields I visited at from 25 to 40 per cent. The rust seems to have disappeared to a great extent, the plant is again standing straight and the heads seem to be filling out well. I don't see where the ultimate result can be anything but a good crop."

## LINE-UP IS ANNOUNCED

Bobby Weir of the "Braves" and T. E. Jacobs of the "Athletics" announced this morning the lineup of the two teams that will appear Sunday at University park in the exhibition game, the proceeds of which are to apply on the suit fund for the City League. The teams represent talent picked from a long list of players, and are, in the opinion of the rival captains, the cream of the diamond artists in the city. Choice of several men was determined by the toss of a coin. The once over of the two teams seems to indicate that there will be some red hot ball uncoiled at the park Sunday. The sale of tickets is progressing merrily and a big crowd is assured.

The lineup of the teams:  
"Braves": Felix Lindsey, 2b; Armstrong, 3b; Pete Heffner, ss; Montgomery, 1b; Mitchell, cf; Weir, rf; Manson, 1b; Scott, c; Colbert, c; Turner, p; Stepp, p. Paul Heffner, utility. Eli Trimble, utility.  
"Athletics": House, 3b; Siddons, 2b; Frank Lindsey, ss; Witherspoon, 1b; Jacobs, c; Joe Lindsey, p; Cloud, rf; Burton, rf; "Montana," cf; Fox, utility; Strothman, utility; Wooten.

## WEATHER ELSEWHERE.

Western Union reports received at 8 a. m.:  
**Texas.**  
Generally cloudy, light rains in extreme western and Panhandle portions. Temperature 75.  
**Oklahoma.**  
Generally cloudy, no rain reported. Temperature 74.  
**Arkansas.**  
Generally clear and calm. Temperature 73.

## CROSS SAN CLOSE TO PRZEMYSL

Russians Admit Furious Attack  
Renewed—French Stage Successful Air Raid on Germans at St. Quentin

## ITALIANS REPORT SEVERAL CAPTURES

Take Villages, Mountain Peaks and  
Passes in the Tyra—Austria  
Reports on Naval Battle  
Monday

By United Press.  
Berlin, May 26.—It is reported today that the Austro-German armies have crossed the San river, six miles from Przemyel, after first capturing Swiete.

Attack on Russians Renewed.  
By United Press.  
Petrograd, May 26.—The war office admitted today that the Austro-German armies had renewed their furious attack on the Russian lines around Przemyel.

German Station Wrecked.  
By United Press.  
Paris, May 26.—During a great aerial raid the French bombarded and destroyed the German station at St. Quentin and wrecked the German fuel depot.

Taking advantage of a favorable opportunity, the allied airmen made a series of attacks on railways and supply depots. They dropped over two hundred projectiles, including fourteen heavy bombs.

Italians Lose Aeroplane.  
By United Press.  
Amsterdam, May 26.—A dispatch received here says the Austrians shot down an Italian aeroplane near Goritz.

Captures Announced.  
By United Press.  
Rome, May 26.—The war office today announced the capture of several villages, important mountain passes and high Alpine mountain peaks by the Italian armies that invaded the Austrian Tyrol.

The captured territory included the Brenta river defiles and the Vallinfernio pass. The latter point was taken after a battle with bayonets.

Austrian Statement.  
By United Press.  
Vienna, May 26.—The reported naval engagement between the Austrians and Italians Monday is confirmed by an official statement issued here today.

It is announced that an Austrian cruiser and three destroyers engaged two Italian destroyers in the Adriatic Sea. The Austrians sunk one of the vessels of the enemy and made prisoners of the crew.

Two Italian warships then came up and joined in the battle, forcing the Austrians to retire with one of their destroyers slightly damaged.

London, May 26.—The British war office admits that the British have been unable entirely to reform their line dented by the Germans east of Ypres, and this dovetails with the German claims of advances in the region of Flanders. The most interesting statement in the British announcement is that, with due "precautions," gas attacks can be "met and defeated."

This is particularly pertinent, in that gas bids fair to be used more and more possibly by all the contenders.

## ONE OF WAR'S TRAGEDIES



A German scout finding an outpost who had been mortally wounded, and with his last strength had crawled to a stream to quench his thirst.

## FREIGHTER HITS LINER IN A FOG

By United Press.  
New York, May 26.—The freighter Joseph J. Cuneo rammed the American liner Ryndam in a fog off Nantucket Island.

The liner was damaged to an extent that it was deemed advisable to transfer the passengers and part of the crew to the freighter.

Although there was some excitement among those on board the Ryndam, eighty-seven passengers and about as many members of the crew were soon safely placed on board the Cuneo.

One of the holds of the Ryndam was full of water when the report of the accident was received and the amount of water was increasing rapidly.

The Ryndam is proceeding toward New York at the rate of thirteen miles an hour.

Vessels belonging to the U. S. Atlantic fleet, which have been maneuvering near the scene of the accident, are standing by the disabled steamer.

At 10:30 this morning the Ryndam was one hundred and twenty-four miles off Ambrose Channel. Part of her machinery was strained but was holding out. There were 200 men in the crew.

A report from Boston said the passengers were taken aboard the battleship North Carolina though the captain stated that they were on the Cuneo.

## NOBODY ABOARD HURT AND SHIP IS PROCEEDING

KILLING OF TWO TEXAS  
RANGERS IS CONFIRMED.

By United Press.  
Austin, May 26.—Information received by the adjutant general today confirms the report of the killing of two Texas rangers who were doing guard duty on the Rio Grande river. The killed occurred near Pilares, Tex., where Mexicans made an attack on the guards.

## Ship 25,000 Horses a Month to War Zone

Kansas City, Mo., May 26.—Though a little more than half a year has gone by since the shipment of horses to the European war zone set in, approximately 150,000 have already been purchased in the United States. They are now going out at the rate of about 25,000 a month, or 420,000 a year, with no sign of a let up until the war ends, so that anybody can readily see what may happen if the struggle goes on until one side or the other stops from exhaustion. The possibility that this country may lose 1,000,000 horses as a result of the conflict is thus rapidly becoming a probability, for everybody seems to be agreed that England, France and Germany must buy a very large number of horses after the war ends to replace those taken from their own people for military purposes.

The records of the department of commerce show that more than 105,000 horses were exported during the first three months of 1915. April exports are not yet fully ascertained, but are estimated at 35,000 head. The total exports last year were, in round numbers, 93,000 head, as compared with 29,000 head in 1913. Practically all of the horses shipped to Europe last year were purchased for military purposes.

France, England, Italy, Switzerland, Roumania, and perhaps other countries have been among the buyers. It is estimated that they have paid something like \$50,000,000 for the horses purchased. That prices have advanced only a few dollars for certain classes of horses and not at all for others, is pretty good proof that the United States can keep on supplying horses for the greatest war in history as long as the European nations want to buy them. But all the market experts are predicting very much higher prices for all classes of horses as soon as the business of the country comes back to a normal condition.

## Police Chiefs are Holding Convention

By United Press.  
Cincinnati, O., May 26.—The International Association of Chiefs of Police which opened a four-day convention here yesterday will watch Cincinnati's best parade in an inspection drill.

Mrs. Chief of Police is here in full was standing by and then conveyed don provides for so many shopping tours and pleasure trips that the event seems to have been arranged especially for her entertainment.

Friends of Chief Copelan are hounding him for president of the association.

NEW SUITS IN DISTRICT COURT.  
Dora May Williams vs. D. C. Williams, divorce. J. D. Garrison.  
In re dissolution of Ninnekah Drug Co., Holding & Herr.  
In the matter of the guardianship of Franklin, Garland, Ada, Flora, Wesley and Mary Emma Baker, minors. Appeal from county court. Adrian Melton and N. M. Williams.  
Clady Baker, minor, by Lloyd Patchell, vs. C. W. Harper, cancellation of lease and possession of land. W. H. Wood.  
Moses Folsom vs. J. S. and Ada Mullen, Edgar A. Bancroft, cancellation of deed. W. H. Wood.  
Walter Darlington et al vs. County of Lincoln, mandamus. Riddle and Hammerly.

## AMERICAN STEAMER IS TORPEDOED

Nebraskan Meets Mishap Not Far  
from Scene of Louisiana Sink-  
ing But Damage is  
Not Serious

By United Press.  
London, May 26.—It was announced by the admiralty this morning that the steamer Nebraskan was torpedoed.

The vessel was a twin-screw steamer belonging to the American-Hawaiian Steamship company and was American registered.

The first word from the Nebraskan came to the Lands End wireless station. It said the vessel was torpedoed and the members of the crew were taking to the boats.

It was stated that an armed trawler was standing by and then conveyed the ship to port. There was no loss of life but the fore holds were filled with water.

Passes Kinsale.  
By United Press.  
Kinsale, May 26.—The Nebraskan passed off here with her bow down and flying the uncontrollable signal, apparently heading for Queenstown.

She sent a wireless message saying that she was not seriously damaged and nobody on board was injured. The fore holds were reported to be partly filled with water.

May Have Been Mined.  
By United Press.  
New York, May 26.—The captain of the Nebraskan wired the offices of the company here that his vessel was either torpedoed or mined forty miles west of Fastnet, not far from the scene of the sinking of the Lusitania.

The captain stated that there was no water in the hold of the vessel and that it was proceeding to Liverpool under its own steam.

The Nebraskan carried a cargo of ballast. It left Liverpool on May 24 for New York and had a crew consisting of forty-seven men.

The company takes the view that the vessel was mined. The Nebraskan was the first ship to pass through the Panama canal.

The Nebraskan carried the American flag and an American crew, but was under charter for co-operation with Great Britain.

It is reported that British warships are escorting her toward Liverpool.

Anxiety in Washington.  
By United Press.  
Washington, May 26.—The news of the torpedoing of the steamer Nebraskan was received with grave anxiety by officials here.

Reported by Consul.  
By United Press.  
Washington, May 26.—Consul General Skinner at London cabled to Secretary Bryan today as follows:

"The admiralty reports that the American steamer Nebraskan, bound for Liverpool to the Delaware breakwater, was torpedoed forty miles south by west of Fastnet. The crew are in the boats and the weather is fine."

President Wilson and Bryan were obviously concerned but will make no representations in regard to the matter till full details are received.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY.  
By United Press.  
Washington, May 26.—The first convocation day address at the American university was delivered this afternoon by Chancellor J. R. Day of Syracuse university. This marks the end of the first year's work of the university.